

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04915 101846Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

TRSE-00 /064 W

----- 048421

R 101800Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3072

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4915

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EFIN, JM

SUBJECT: PRE-ELECTION TAX REFORMS

FINANCE MINISTER COORE INTRODUCED FIRST, AND UNDOUBTEDLY MOST POLITICALLY APPEALING, PHASE OF GOVERNMENT'S COMPREHENSIVE TAX REFORM PROGRAM TO PARLIAMENT NOVEMBER 9. LEGISLATION, IN FORM OF AMENDMENT TO THE TAX ACT, WOULD SUBSTITUTE A NEW "TAX CREDIT SYSTEM" FOR CURRENT "DEDUCTIONS FROM INCOME SYSTEM". EFFECT WOULD BE TO GIVE EQUAL MONETARY BENEFIT TO ALL TAXPAYERS FOR MOST AUTHORIZED DEDUCTIONS. UNDER CURRENT SYSTEM TAXPAYERS WITH HIGH INCOMES BENEFIT MORE FROM THEIR DEDUCTIONS THAN DO LOW INCOME TAYPAYERS. I.E. UNDER CURRENT SYSTEM A \$1000 DEDUCTION WOULD PRODUCE A \$600 BENEFIT TO THE HIGHEST BRACKET TAXPAYER AND ONLY \$300 BENEFIT TO LOWEST BRACKET TAXPAYER. UNDER NEW SYSTEM, TAX CREDITS OF EQUAL AMOUNTS WOULD BE PROVIDED. ALTHOUGH TANGIBLE BENEFIT TO MOST TAXPAYERS WILL BE SLIGHT, THIS PHASE OF TAX REFORM WILL PRODUCE PLEASANT PRE-ELECTION FLAVOR FOR INCUMBENT PNP.

GERARD

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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